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June 10, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama,

I am writing to express my full support of Ohio Governor Ted Strickland's request on June 9, 2010 for federal disaster assistance for Wood and Fulton counties and specifically that Public Assistance and Individual Assistance be made available for each county. Powerful tornados struck Northwest Ohio during the late evening hours of June 5, and early morning hours of June 6, leaving a devastating path of destruction. Tragically, the storm claimed five lives and completely destroyed many individual's homes and businesses.

For an area that is already struggling in this economic downturn and has been extremely hard hit with high unemployment, the impact caused by these storms is overwhelming. I support a declaration for a federal major disaster, so that federal resources can begin reaching these communities. The tornados destroyed numerous homes, a high school, and a building that housed the police department and emergency responders and a great deal of work will need to be done in order to re-build this whole area. Because this damage is so severe, I believe that we cannot delay in getting federal assistance from FEMA to these counties to supplement the local, state, and voluntary efforts as soon as possible.

I am fully supportive of Governor Strickland's request for a federal major disaster declaration and I urge your prompt consideration of his request. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 225-6405 to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

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